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DEC 27 2006

REMARKS

Initially, the Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 2, 4-12, and 14-18 are allowed and that claims 1, 3 and 13 would be allowed to overcome the bases for objection

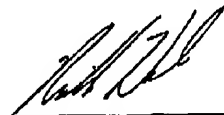
Claims 1-18 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 3, and 13 having been amended herein. No new matter is added by these amendments.

In the office action dated September 28, 2006, the Examiner cited instances in Claim 1 at lines 29 and 31 where improper antecedent basis for certain claim terms had been used. Similar, formal objections were made with respect to claims 3 and 13. These objections have been addressed by the instant amendments. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is requested.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathan Weber
Reg. No. 50,958

CUSTOMER NUMBER 026304
Telephone: (212) 940-8703
Fax: (212) 940-8986 or 8987
Docket No.: 100794-11566 (FUJM 18.307)
NDW